

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BELGRA 00452 230743Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NSCE-00 PM-05 SP-02
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O R 201605Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4605
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T BELGRADE 452

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: JERUSALEM PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: A/ BELGRADE 394 (NOTAL); B/ SECTO 1035

1. IN FONSEC MINIC'S ABSENCE, I MET THIS MORNING,
JAN 20, WITH FAFSFA ASSTSEC BERNARDIC TO MAKE DEMARCHE
AS INSTRUCTED REF B. AFTER LISTENING CAREFULLY TO
MY PRESENTATION, BERNARDIC EXPRESSED THANKS FOR TIMELY
CONVEYANCE OF U.S. VIEWS AND CONCERN, AS WELL AS HIS
UNDERSTANDING OF DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING PREMATURE
RUSH TO JUDGEMENT ON JERUSALEM TALKS. TO BERNARDIC'S
QUESTIONS OF WHETHER AND WHEN USG EXPECTS A RENEWAL
OF NEGOTIATIONS AND WHETHER, AS PRESS REPORTS HAVE
ALLEGED, THE PRESIDENT WILL SOON HOST SUMMIT MEETING
IN WASHINGTON WITH SADAT AND BEGIN, I SAID I

SECRET

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PAGE 02 BELGRA 00452 230743Z

WAS NOT YET INFORMED BUT WOULD ENDEAVOR TO FIND
OUT AND CONVEY TO GOY ASAP ALONG WITH MORE
EXTENSIVE REPORT ON THE SECRETARY'S JERUSALEM/
CAIRO CONVERSATIONS.

2. DURING ENSUING DISCUSSION, BERNARDIC MADE
THE FOLLOWING "PERSONAL" COMMENTS OF POSSIBLE

INTEREST ON CURRENT ME PEACE INITIATIVES:

--NOTING THAT SADAT FACES OPPOSITION FROM MANY
QUARTERS, "INCLUDING INSIDE EGYPT", HE SAID, "I
DO NOT BELIEVE SADAT WILL SUCCEED";

--REFERENCING TITO'S RECENT LETTER TO THE
PRESIDENT ON ARAFAT'S VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, HE EMPHASIZED
THAT GOY DOES "NOT EXCLUDE" IN ITS POSITION ON A
JUST ME PEACE THE POSSIBILITY OF A "LIAISON" BETWEEN
JORDAN AND A FUTURE PALESTINIAN STATE, IF THAT BE
THE DESIRE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE;

--WHILE THE PLO IS THE MOST LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND WOULD LOGICALLY BE
EXPECTED INITIALLY TO DOMINATE A PALESTINIAN STATE,
FOLLOWING SUCH A STATE'S FOUNDING OTHER POLITICAL FORCES
WOULD EVENTUALLY EMERGE;

--BOUMEDINE'S RECENT TRIP (HE WAS IN YUGOSLAVIA FOR
TALKS WITH TITO JAN 14-15) WAS AIMED AT GARNERING
SUPPORT FOR "REJECTIONIST" STAND TO WHICH HE REMAINS
COMMITTED. GOY DID NOT "PUT OIL ON THE FIRE" IN
SPEAKING WITH BOUMEDIENE, BUT ALLEGEDLY SOUGHT TO CONVINCE
HIM THAT IT DOES NOT SERVE THE ARAB CAUSE TO MAKE EVEN
MORE DIFFICULT SADAT'S ALREADY FORMIDABLE TASK.
EAGLEBURGER

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